

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 129177

62

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 FILE-01 RSC-01 /018 R

66639

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:DFINNERTY 6/30/73

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:KKURZE

----- 099219

O 010301Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129177

TOTAR 2

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SP, XF

SUBJECT: SPANISH ARMS SALES TO ARAB COUNTRIES

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC FROM MADRID JUN 30
REPEATED

QUOTE

MADRID 3670

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SP, XF

SUBJECT: SPANISH ARMS SALES TO ARAB COUNTRIES

REF STATE 124394

1. EMBOFF INFORMED PEREZ-MAURA OF MFA'S DIRECTORATE
GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OF US DISAPPROVAL
OF PROPOSED SALE OF 106MM TO IRAQ, DRAWING ON ARGUMENTS
PROVIDED IN REFTTEL. WHILE ACCEPTING US REFUSAL, PEREZ-
MAURA MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS CONCERNING US POSITION ON
IRAQI PROPOSAL AND SPANISH ARMS SALES TO MIDDLE EAST IN
GENERAL.

A. GOS AWARE IRAQ DEPENDENTS ON SOVIETS FOR ARMS, BUT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 129177

CONSIDERS THIS MORE AN ARGUMENT IN FAVOR SPANISH PROPOSAL,

WHICH IN MODEST WAY WOULD HELP DIVERSIFY IRAQ'S ARMS SOURCES AND PRESERVE INFLUENCE THERE OF WESTERN-ORIENTED SPAIN.

B. BECAUSE OF CAREFULLY NURTURED RELATIONS WITH ARAB STATES, SPAIN ABLE TO SERVE US INTERESTS INTEREST IN MIDDLE EAST DURING DIFFICULT PERIOD AS MEDIATOR AND SPOKESMAN. SPAIN CANNOT MAINTAIN THESE GOOD RELATIONS WITH RHETORIC ALONE. IT MUST BE ABLE TO DELIVER SOME TANGIBLE BENEFITS -- AS IN CASE OF ARMS DEAL WITH IRAQIS -- TO ARAB FRIENDS. US UNWILLINGNESS TO APPROVE SUCH ARRANGEMENTS AS SALE OF WEAPONS TO BAHREIN AND IRAQ OR F-5'S TO LIBYA PRESENTS DIFFICULTY FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS OF SPAIN'S ARAB POLICY.

C. US SHOULD RECONSIDER DISAPPROVAL OF F-5 SALE TO LIBYA. LIBYAN AMBASSADOR CONTINUES TO RAISE ISSUE, STRESSING POINT THAT, IF SPAIN TRULY HAS INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY AND FRIENDSHIP FOR LIBYA IT PROFESSES, IT WOULD FIND WAY TO SELL 10 F-5 TRAINERS REQUESTED. PROPOSED SALE IS POLITICALLY IMPORTANT TO SPAIN'S FOREIGN POLICY, THOUGH OF LIMITED COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGE.

D. GOS HAS NOW RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM INDIA CONCERNING POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF UP TO 100 106MM RECOILESS RIFLES. GOS WOULD LIKE TO GIVE INDIANS PROMPT REPLY AND HOPES US WILL APPROVE SALE.

2. PEREZ-MAURA'S COMMENTS INDICATIVE OF GENERAL CONCERN WITHIN MINISTRY OVER CONFLICTING IMPERATIVES OF MEETING US REQUIREMENTS ON ARMS SALES AND KEEPING SPAIN'S FRIENDSHIP WITH ARABS CREDIBLE. GOS OFFICIAL CONSIDER IT HAS ALREADY BEEN DEMONSTRATED THAT SPAIN'S GOOD STANDING AMONG MORE RADICAL ARAB STATES HAS BEEN, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE, OF VALUE TO US. US SHOULD THEREFORE AT LEAST AVOID WHERE POSSIBLE RAISING OBSTACLES TO CONTINUATION OF THIS POLICY. VETO OF PROPOSED SALE TO IRAQ OF ITSELF NOT MAJOR BLOW. BUT FOR SPANISH IT IS ONE MORE ACT IN CUMULATE PROCESS THAT COMPLICATES THEIR MIDDLE EASTERN POLICY. PROPOSED SALE OF F-5'S TO LIBYA OF CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE TO SPANISH. THEY SEE US BAN AS SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT TO RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR CLOSER POLITICAL TIES WITH COUNTRY OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THEIR INTEREST IN MAHGREB AND IN BROADER ARAB PICTURE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 129177

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT FOREGOING POLITICAL FACTORS, PROVIDE EMBASSY ITS CURRENT THINKING ON SALE OF F-5 TRAINERS TO LIBYA. ALSO WOULD WELCOME EARLY RESPONSE FROM DEPARTMENT ON GOS PROPOSAL SELL 106'S TO INDIA.

RIVERO UNQUOTE ROGERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE129177
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:DFINNERTY 6/30/73
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730759/aaaabrmg.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPANISH ARMS SALES TO ARAB COUNTRIES FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC FROM MADRID JUN 30 REPEATED QUOTE MADRID 3670 E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS, SP, XF SUBJECT: SPANISH ARMS SALES TO ARAB COUNTRIES SPANISH ARMS SALES TO ARAB COUNTRIES FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC FROM MADRID JUN 30 REPEATED QUOTE MADRID 3670 E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS, SP, XF SUBJECT: SPANISH ARMS SALES TO ARAB COUNTRIES REF STAT
TAGS: MASS, SP, XF
To: DAKAR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005